



DHSS SNAPSHOT

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May - July 2016

Director's Message



*Peter Lyskowski, acting director,
Missouri Department of Health and
Senior Services*

I recently had the opportunity to tag along with scientists from Missouri State University as they did mosquito surveillance in Southeast Missouri. Working under a contract with DHSS, this team is trying to determine whether, and where, and in what concentrations, we might have either the *Aedes aegypti* or *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes, the ones capable of carrying the Zika virus. It was a fascinating experience that reiterated to me the hands-on nature of the important work that we do.

At this point, the MSU team has not found any of the *Ae. aegypti* mosquitoes in Missouri, though it has found many *Ae. albopictus*. The CDC has deemed *Ae. aegypti* to be a "primary vector," meaning it is the most likely species to carry Zika. *Ae. albopictus* remains a "secondary vector" for now. We have had nine individuals test positive for Zika in Missouri, and all of them had a history of traveling to the areas of our world where *Ae. aegypti* and Zika are prevalent. Nonetheless, identifying the types and locations of mosquitoes we have in Missouri is important in the event that Zika reaches our state.

I met Dr. Kip Thompson and graduate student Madison Poiry in Cape Girardeau and we headed out to the first stop, a cemetery in Cape. Dr. Thompson and Madison had gone there the day before to set up a mosquito trap. Using dry ice and an attractant called Octenol, these traps lure mosquitoes in close enough that a fan sucks them down into a mesh sleeve and plastic container. The fan and a flexible plastic diaphragm keep them from flying back out, and overnight hundreds of mosquitoes might take the one-way trap trip. We grabbed the trap, threw the sleeve and container of mosquitoes into a cooler containing dry ice to kill them, and headed for the next stop. Dr. Thompson – an army reservist who later this summer will be heading to Honduras to help in emergency preparedness efforts – prides himself on efficiency in the field, and I was soon to experience that.

As most people know, mosquitoes like to find standing water in cool, dark places so they can lay their eggs. Dr. Thompson, armed with a ladle and a turkey baster, collects samples from standing water, puts them on a white tray, and looks for little things swimming around – mosquito larvae and pupae. We gather samples, bag them, and put them in the truck. Not in the dry ice death chamber, though. We need these things to

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live so that Dr. David Claborn at MSU can grow them into adults and then type them.

Cemeteries, often adjacent to woods, provide perfect breeding places in the flower vases that loved ones leave on graves. Do you know where else you can find larvae-laden standing water? Yep. Old tires. Off to the salvage yard we went! As an aside, perhaps the only good thing about mosquitoes is that their presence at both salvage yards and cemeteries provide a pretty startling, albeit encoded, reminder of the dangers of distracted driving. It's amazing, yet alarming, to look closely in the bottom of a tire and see what can live there in less than an inch of water. Beetle larvae, fly larvae, and of course baby skeeters. We scooped and bagged hundreds of them to return to the lab. At one garage we found a couple larvae of a type of predatory mosquito that actually eats the bugs we were hunting. "Enemy of my enemy" indeed (the guy remounting a tire in the garage asked us if we could put those bugs back!). The crazy numbers of larvae we found drove home the importance of all the public messages we are putting out about getting rid of standing water around our homes.

We kept bouncing from place to place and before I knew it, it was mid-afternoon and we had made multiple stops in Cape, Morley, Sikeston, Hayti, Poplar Bluff and probably others I'm forgetting. Dr. Thompson and Madison loaded up to head back to Springfield, picking up more traps and larvae along the way. What a day! I often brag to others about the dedication and professionalism of staff at DHSS and at Missouri's local public health agencies. It was great to also see firsthand the great partnership we have with these fine and dedicated scientists in the public health program at Missouri State.




Acting Director Peter Lyskowski collects mosquito larvae in Hayti, Missouri with scientists from Missouri State University surveillance team as part of Zika preparedness.


MOSQUITOES and TICKS Can Spread Disease

West Nile Virus, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever and Zika Virus


Prevent Mosquito and Tick Bites




Use insect repellent that contains DEET.



Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants.



Use air conditioning or make sure your window/door screens are tight.



Remove standing water around your home.

Mosquitoes and ticks will be active anytime the ground isn't frozen.

For Missouri information, visit health.mo.gov

DHSS Department of Health and Senior Services
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER • Services provided on a nondiscriminatory basis.

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Follow these tips to prevent mosquito and tick bites.

For more information, visit these websites:

Zika Virus - <http://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/zika/index.php>

Mosquito-borne diseases - <http://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/westnilevirus/index.php>

Tick-borne diseases - <http://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/tickscarrydisease/index.php>

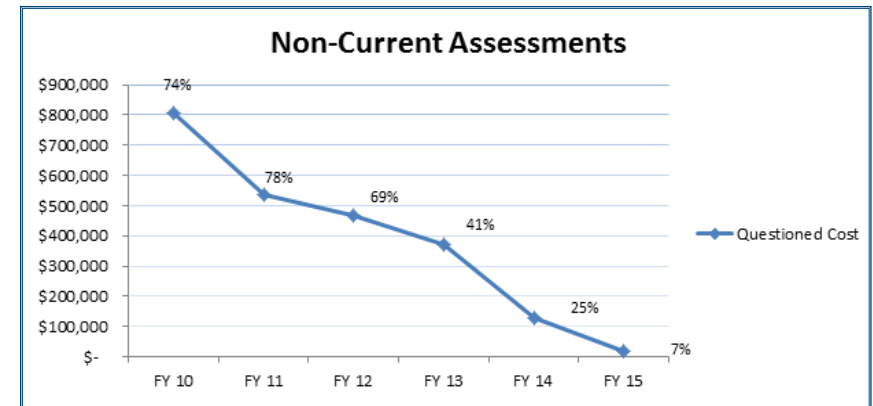
Click here to enlarge

DSDS Eliminates Backlog of Missourians Needing Reassessments for Services

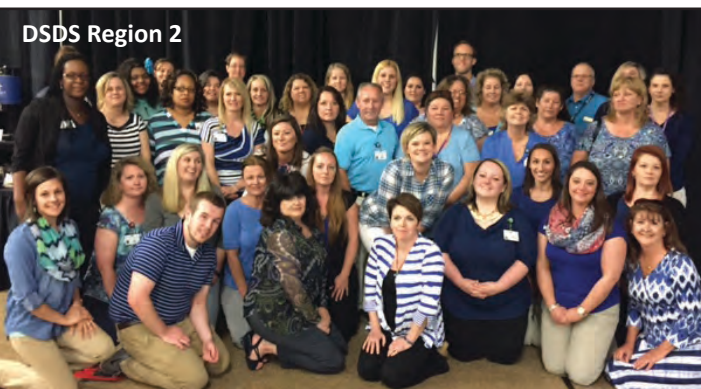
The Division of Senior and Disability Services (DSDS) is responsible for the direct administration of various Medicaid funded Home and Community Based Service (HCBS) programs for seniors and adults with disabilities. DSDS staff is charged with assessing and reassessing the need for, and authorizing HCBS services for applicable Medicaid recipients. These services, which are authorized in a plan of care, provide assistance to help qualifying recipients remain in or return to their home or community.

Those individuals that have not been authorized for services have historically taken priority over those already receiving services having a reassessment completed. State law requires an annual reassessment. The division had acquired a backlog of participants needing reassessments. This backlog resulted in findings by the State Auditor's office beginning in Fiscal Year 2010.

The division expects all HCBS program participants will have a current assessment by June 30, 2016. This ensures that all of these individuals are receiving the services they need.



[Click here for a regional map of DSDS](#)



Strengthening Leadership Skills

by Julie Herigon, Office of Human Resources

Next Step: Leadership (NSL) is a course that was developed four years ago to help our emerging leaders gather information to grow and acquire strategies to strengthen their leadership skills. Participants from all divisions are chosen by upper management based on their current performance and their willingness to learn. NSL begins in September and continues throughout the year with a celebration ceremony in June. Sessions occur monthly with a break during the holidays. Each session focuses on a different topic and these topics can vary from year to year. This year the NSL participants were introduced to the Human Resources unit and the Office of Administration with discussions of their role in the department. They received training in the areas of presentation skills, supervisory skills, leadership qualities, stress management, and best management practices. They also were given a chance to participate in Insights Discovery, Who Moved my Cheese, panel discussions, and division specific presentations. The next participants will be chosen in late July.



Attending the Next Step: Leadership course is (front row, l. to r.) Calah Arnett, Sharmini Rogers, Melissa Smith, Angela Theroff and Rachelle Collinge. (Second row, l. to r.) Mary Koch, Cindy Reese, Carey Boyer, Wendy Bruemmer and Jane Abbott. (Third row, l. to r.) Adam Perkins, Deanna Tillison, Dennis Wambuguh, Jan Carter and Sheila Reed. (Back row, l. to r.) Terry Ellsworth, Linton Barlett, Shalonda Graham and Mindy Rustemeyer. Not pictured are Venkata Garikapaty, Ben Harvey, Candice Talbot and Aaron Winslow.

Ferguson Child Care Providers Receive First Aid Training

Agencies within the Division of Regulation and Licensure (DRL) partnered with Community Fire Protection District in Ferguson to provide Pediatric First Aid and CPR/AED classes in the Ferguson community, free of charge to child care providers and personnel. The Bureau of Emergency Medical Services provided funding for the training as part of its Emergency Medical Services for Children Initiative. The Section for Child Care Regulation supported the cause by encouraging local providers to attend the training which fulfills the CPR/First Aid training requirements for licensed child care providers, assistants and staff.

Future class openings can be found at http://www.communityfpd.org/index.cfm?zone=/unionactive/view_article.cfm&HomeID=553673.

(Right, l. to r.) Bureau of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) provided funding for the Pediatric First Aid and CPR/AED classes in Ferguson. EMS staff include Les Jobe, Katherine Crockett and Julie Creach.



(Bottom, backrow, l. to r.) Section for Child Care Regulation – Eastern District worked with child care providers to attend the First Aid and CPR/AED training provided by the Community Fire Protection District in Ferguson. Staff include (front row, l. to r.) Debbie Ashlock, Caron Ahlemeyer and Marla Chrisco. (Back row, l. to r.) Rhonda Delmain, Beverly Dyson, Angela Clark, Carrie Williams, Denise Koch, Stephanie Barnes and Shelley Truesdale.



RAD Team Participates in Cooper Nuclear Plant Exercise

by Jonathan Garoutte, Bureau of Environmental Epidemiology

The Department of Health and Senior Services is required by state statute to respond to all radiation emergencies and conduct radiological safety inspections on certain shipments of radioactive material traversing the state. The Radiological/Chemical Emergency Response Program, in the Bureau of Environmental Epidemiology, is comprised of four technical staff and approximately 20 volunteers from within the Division and is responsible for implementing these statutory requirements. Program and volunteer staff spend many hours annually training and cross training to stay proficient both technically and operationally to perform functions required to work in this type of environment.

The program was put to the test during the period between March 28th and April 7th when asked to coordinate participation in a Cooper Nuclear Plant Exercise, a medical services exercise, at the Fairfax Community Hospital, three high level radioactive material shipment inspections in Rolla, Charleston and Joplin and security operations during the Kansas City Royal's major league baseball opening home games. Coordination for these events was challenging as this was more than the four technical program staff could cover and required volunteer staff to help ensure adequate coverage. In addition to the four programmatic staff, 18 volunteer staff primarily from the Bureau's of Environmental Epidemiology and Environmental Health Services rearranged schedules to make this happen.

This program is identified as an "essential function" in the department's COOP plan and would not be possible if not for the dedication of this group of individuals, many of which have spent years in this program.



DHSS employees participated in the Cooper Nuclear Plant Exercise, a Medical Services Exercise, at the Fairfax Community Hospital earlier this spring. RAD team members include (front, l. to r.) Breanna Werdehausen, Liz Evans, Elizabeth Semkiw, Margie Patton, Ainsley Lackey; 2nd row: Craig Sullivan, Todd Schneider, Rachelle Kuster, Cory Jorgenson, Lori Harris, Will Brantley, and Scott Patterson. (Back row) Keith Henke, Melanie Massman, Jason Cummins, Mark Jenkerson, Jeff Wenzel and Steve May.

In Memory of Holly Hilbert



Holly Hilbert

Holly Hilbert of Garden City passed away unexpectedly on July 13, 2016. Holly was a facility advisory nurse II in the Section for Long Term Care Regulation (SLCR), Kansas City office. She began working with SLCR in September of 2010.

Holly is survived by her husband Sam, and three sons, Nicholas S. Hilbert and wife Abbie, Matthew H. Hilbert, and Timothy S. Hilbert and wife Bridget; a daughter, Heidi Hilbert; and six grandchildren.

"Holly had an infectious smile, warm personality, caring attitude and was always the first to offer to assist her fellow co-workers regardless of how busy she was. Holly was a friend to anyone she met, was always someone who would listen and truly cared about everyone around her. The void left by the passing of Holly will be deeply felt by all those who were touched by her gentle presence," said Kimberly Gorman RN, BSN, facility advisory nurse III.

[Click here for Holly's obituary.](#)

Public Health in Action!

Sexually transmitted diseases are not often the topic of discussion during a normal day of school for most teens, but for a health and child development class at Jefferson City High School syphilis, gonorrhea, chlamydia and hepatitis were all the buzz after a presentation provided by Tara McKinney and Stephanie Washington of the Bureau of HIV, STD and AIDS. Tara and Stephanie travel to Missouri's public schools to educate teens about sexually transmitted diseases and other sexual health related topics including body image, correct condom usage, contraceptives, sex in social media, and myths about these topics.

"We often receive hugs from those who have listened and participated in our presentations," said Stephanie. "Our presentation is one that most individuals don't forget. Many confide in us as they tell us their personal story dealing with sexuality or simply just have questions about sexually transmitted diseases."

Tara and Stephanie engage their clients in an interactive ice breaker which familiarizes the individuals with the terminology used in their presentations. Stephanie worked with Missouri State University to produce a video that she plays depicting signs and symptoms, modes of transmission and preventive efforts. Following the video, Tara discusses Hepatitis A, B and C. Both engage their audience in activities to promote peer education, while entertaining them at the same time.

"We tailor our programs to meet the needs of each requestor and every population that we serve," said Tara. "Engaging our audience is key to keeping our program entertaining, but educational."

Tara and Stephanie have built relationships with partners, stakeholders and clients around the state.

"Most individuals are not going to receive this information at home, so as health educators we travel to schools, correctional facilities, alcohol and substance recovery/treatment centers and other venues to talk about making better decisions regarding their health and lifestyle," said Stephanie. "We are passionate about our work and the people that we serve, and are privileged to serve the citizens of Missouri."

The Centers of Disease Control estimates that youth ages 15-24 make up just over one quarter of the sexually active population, but account for half of the 20 million new sexually transmitted infections that occur in the U.S. each year.

Tara McKinney presents educational materials about hepatitis with a student from Jefferson City High School (JCHS).

Stephanie Washington engages students from JCHS during a presentation about sexually transmitted diseases at JCHS.

Tara McKinney (left) and Stephanie Washington (right) presented gift cards to JCHS students who participated in a poster contest relating to sexually transmitted diseases.



DHSS Stands United Against Elder Abuse

DHSS employees dressed in purple to show their support in the worldwide effort to prevent elder abuse, neglect and exploitation. Elder abuse victims are parents and grandparents, neighbors and friends. World Elder Abuse Awareness Day occurs each year on June 15.

"Many Missourians suffer in silence because of fear or shame," said Celesta Hartgraves, director of the Division of Senior and Disability Services. "You can be your loved one's advocate by speaking up."

Seniors who experience abuse or neglect face a heightened risk of health complications and premature death, while financial exploitation can rob men and women of the security they have built over a lifetime.

Experts believe for every case of elder abuse or neglect reported to authorities, as many as 23 cases go unreported. If you suspect someone is being abused, neglected or exploited, call Missouri's Adult Abuse and Neglect Hotline at 800.392.0210. The hotline operates 365 days per year, from 7 a.m. to midnight.

Click here for additional photos.

1. Front row: Teresa Tumbleson, Cindy Moore, Crystal Taber. Back row: Tim Jackson, Sharon Stokes, Becky Cochran, Sara Avery-Williams and LaShun Parish. All of DSDS Region 2, Scott County.

2. Front row: Tami Lubbering, Carla Kolb, Betsy Deal, Carrie Montgomery and Stephanie Miller; Back row: Lana Wong, Mary Eller, Hellen Adrain and Kristi Luebbering; Third row: Laura Stiefferman and Rick King - Division of Regulation and Licensure

3. Mindy Bridge (seated), Christy Wilfong and Deana Schlesselman of DSDS Region 4, Pettis County

4. David Reed, DSDS Region 1, McDonald County



World Elder Abuse Awareness Day occurs each year on June 15. Employees from the Wildwood Campus dressed in purple to raise awareness.



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Before Catching that Big One

Before heading out to your favorite fishing hole to catch that big one, you may want to visit Missouri's Fish Advisory webpage. A good source of information, the Advisory is designed to inform individuals of potential health risks associated with eating certain Missouri sport-caught fish. It also provides advice on the amount of fish to safely eat and encourages individuals to eat a healthy diet that includes fish.

As part of the Bureau of Environmental Epidemiology's (BEE) outreach strategy, a video was recently created by BEE and the Missouri

Department of Conservation on fish consumption in Missouri. Click here to view the video.

In addition, the bureau travels throughout Missouri exhibiting at fairs, festivals and other outdoor venues informing individuals about healthy fishing, preventing tick and mosquito bites, and the importance of staying cool during the summer.

For more information go to <http://health.mo.gov/living/environment/fishadvisory/index.php>.



Sonya Henson and Jeff Wenzel headed outdoors to the Fifteenth Annual Kids Fishing Day at Kellogg Lake in Carthage. Over 500 attendees stopped by their booth to learn about healthy fishing, preventing tick and mosquito bites, and the importance of staying cool during the summer.



Stop by the DHSS booth!

Missouri State Fair
August 11 - 21, 2016
www.mostatefair.com

Star Performance

Sarah and Bruce,

Thank you so much for your hard work over the last three months. During this time, you have carried our team's workload due to the loss of four of our team members. Sarah and Bruce, you both have been so professional and maintained positive attitudes throughout this difficult time. I am so impressed by both of you, your work ethics and your characters, as well as the fact that neither of you have complained about the additional assignments you have received.

I want to also thank you for the excellent examples you set for the new staff on our team. Again, thank you so much for all you do. I am honored to be your supervisor!

Lani Cameron
Adult Protective & Community Supervisor



Bruce Williams and Sarah Book, adult protective and community worker IIs, Division of Senior and Disability Services

“...you both have been so professional and maintained positive attitudes throughout this difficult time.”

“Because of your kindness it has given me the courage to change the population I want to work with.”

Brenda,

Thank you for going above and beyond to help my grandmother. We appreciate all your help. Because of your kindness it has given me the courage to change the population I want to work with. I want to help other families in similar situation and help them just as you have helped us. Thank you so much

Charissa



Brenda Wilson, adult protective and community worker II, Division of Senior and Disability Services

National Employee Health and Fitness Day

Over 1,400 individuals walked their way to a better health by participating in this year's National Employee Health and Fitness Day on May 18. The theme for this year's walk was "Live well. Be well." This year there were seven organized routes in Jefferson City or employees could make their own route.

"The weather was perfect for a walk outdoors," said Kathy Craig, health educator in the Bureau of Community Health and Wellness. "This event is a good motivator for others to start a regular walking schedule with coworkers or friends."

Walking and moderate physical activity for at least 30 minutes a day can help you:

- Reduce the risk of coronary heart disease
- Improve blood pressure and blood sugar levels
- Improve blood lipid profile
- Maintain body weight and lower the risk of obesity
- Enhance mental well being
- Reduce the risk of osteoporosis
- Reduce the risk of breast and colon cancer
- Reduce the risk of non-insulin dependent (type 2) diabetes

[Click here for additional photos.](#)

Get Fit In Fifteen



State Employee Appreciation Week Activities

[Click here for additional SERD photos.](#)

[Click here for PHAB Accreditation Greenway Walk photos.](#)



DHSS

Employees of the Month



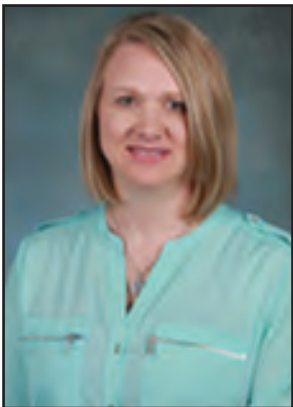
Barbara Brendel

Barbara Brendel has been selected as the Department's April Employee of the Month. Barbara is a Health Program Representative III with the Division of Community and Public Health, Section for Community Health and Chronic Disease Prevention, Bureau of Cancer and Chronic Disease Control.

Barbara developed the infrastructure for a statewide Community Health Worker Program. From the receipt of grant monies in 2013, Barbara has developed the infrastructure necessary to recruit and train community health workers in an effort to increase services to those suffering with and at risk for both cardiovascular disease and diabetes. Barbara has established new and strengthened existing partnerships necessary to institute an ongoing Community Health Worker Advisory Group with a goal to develop core standards and curriculum for future community health worker training and to explore methods of sustainability.

Barbara went above and beyond in writing an SBAR and position paper that clearly outlined the Department's stance on the true definition of who a community health worker is and what their general duties should encompass. The position paper was not only approved by the Department, but also adopted by the Department of Social Services for their work with community health workers in patient centered health homes. Barbara continues to grow this program, and has laid the foundation for a program that has the potential to impact thousands of Missourians in an effort to reduce the incidence of chronic disease and prevent risk factors that lead to heart attacks, strokes, and diabetes.

Barbara and her husband, Charlie, live in Westphalia. They have three children, Jessica, Andy and Jennifer; and one grandchild, with another due in October..



Molly Boeckman

Molly Boeckman was awarded the Department's May Employee of the Month. Molly serves as chief, Bureau of Budget Services and Analysis, Division of Administration.

Molly was nominated for her enormous contributions she makes to the success of the department through her outstanding work. Molly manages a highly specialized unit that affects the operations of the entire department in very important ways. While she has a wide variety of responsibilities, two are of paramount importance - preparing, tracking and administering the department's budget and preparing fiscal note responses. The overall success of DHSS is largely driven by its success in the budget arena, and Molly's work helps provide the best chance for the department to succeed.

Molly performed a comprehensive analysis of the Missouri Public Health Services fund when the fee for newborn screening tests needed to be increased to cover the cost of Lysosomal Storage Disorders. Molly's assignment was to determine 1) how much the fee needed to be increased; 2) the percentage of the fee increase -and the current fee - that needed to be directed to genetics versus screening efforts; and 3) whether related increases or decreases in MOPHS appropriation authority were necessary.

Molly faces a wide array of challenges and deals with all of them successfully. She operates in a pressure-filled atmosphere and manages to balance competing priorities.

DHSS Employees of the Month



Laura Morts

Laura Morts has been selected as the Department's June Employee of the Month. Laura is a program manager with the Survey and Compliance Unit, Section for Long Term Care Regulation, Division of Regulation and Licensure.

Laura was recently awarded a National Achievement Award from our Federal Partner, the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). She was nominated for this award based upon two factors: high-quality work in the area of Survey and Certification under difficult circumstances and outstanding leadership in crafting creative solutions to difficult problems.

Laura worked closely with the CMS Kansas City Regional Office when two-thirds of its enforcement staff retired, leaving only one staff person in the Regional Office to complete all of the long term care enforcement work for four states.

Laura demonstrated a high degree of flexibility by working well with a new staff member under new conditions and adapted existing practices to improve the flow of information with a new regional office. Despite the stressors and obstacles associated with these changes, Laura consistently was a positive influence on CMS's extern and helped this extern receive an exceptional experience. As a result of the leadership Laura demonstrated during this time, all Federal enforcement work was processed timely and effective remedies were imposed consistently. Laura was also instrumental in implementing a change in process for imposing enforcement actions, specifically related to the imposition of denial of payment for new admissions.

Laura lives in Fulton with her husband, Ryan, and three children, Sydney, Payton and Kaelyn.

LU Drumline Performs for DHSS

Employees at the Wildwood Campus enjoyed the sound of drums beating as they came into work on April 28. Lincoln University Marching Musical Storm Drumline performed in the parking lot between 920 and 930 Wildwood.

"When I was a child, my brother and I would watch the LU Drumline practice," said Peter Lyskowski, Acting Director of DHSS. "I played the drums while I was growing up and LU's Drumline is spectacular. They are extremely talented."

[Click here for additional photos.](#)



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Suggestions for future articles can be
sent to: Lori.Buchanan@health.mo.gov
phone: 573/751-6062

Ryan Hobart, Managing Editor
Lori Buchanan, Editor